



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 153

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 2007

No. 126

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOLDEN).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

August 2, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TIM HOLDEN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Father, may everything that we do bring consolation, security, and hope to Your people. By Your holy inspiration, this Nation has begun the good work of justice and freedom with government by the people.

In these days, let us continue to be a stronghold of God-fearing people who fashion law and policy not out of expediency or self-interest, but on firm principles that will strengthen personal virtue, assure tranquility, and serve the common good of all in the Nation.

For we believe, in serving Your people with dedication and personal integrity, we serve You, Almighty God, and give You glory now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on

agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIREs) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SIREs led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 10 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side.

110TH CONGRESS DELIVERS CHANGE AND A NEW DIRECTION

(Mr. KAGEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KAGEN. Mr. Speaker, last November, people in Wisconsin and all across America asked for a positive change and a new direction, and the Democratically led 110th Congress has delivered.

We have been working hard to build a better nation by forcing Congress to be fiscally responsible, by increasing the minimum wage, and enhancing our security with the enactment of the 9/11 Commission recommendations.

We've cut costs for higher education. We've increased veterans' benefits, and in Wisconsin, we saved SeniorCare, the best prescription drug plan in America. And yesterday, we passed legislation to guarantee access to health care for our elders and for those among us who need it most, our children.

And next, forward-thinking Democrats will guide us towards energy independence and confront global climate change. There is hope again all across America. We are headed in a positive and fiscally responsible direction.

THIRD WORLD WAR

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week, General Jack Keane, a retired four-star general and former Vice Chief of Staff of the United States Army, urged the Armed Services Committee to "find the courage that our troops display so openly, to deserve their honorable and selfless sacrifice, and to not squander their sacrifices and the gains they have made."

General Keane reviewed that the counteroffensive led by General David Petraeus is reducing sectarian violence. Sunnis are rejecting al Qaeda, and more Iraqis are working with our troops.

Osama bin Laden has described Iraq, quote, "The most important and serious issue today for the whole world is this third world war. It is raging in the land of the two rivers. The world's millstone and pillar is in Baghdad, the capital of the caliphate."

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H9547